



# Brownfields 2004 Grant Fact Sheet

## New Orleans, LA

### EPA Brownfields Program

EPA's Brownfields Program empowers states, communities, and other stakeholders in economic development to work together to prevent, assess, safely clean up, and sustainably reuse brownfields. A brownfield site is real property, the expansion, redevelopment, or reuse of which may be complicated by the presence or potential presence of a hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant. On January 11, 2002, the President signed into law the Small Business Liability Relief and Brownfields Revitalization Act. Under the Brownfields Law, EPA provides financial assistance to eligible applicants through four competitive grant programs: assessment grants, revolving loan fund grants, cleanup grants, and job training grants. Additionally, funding support is provided to state and tribal response programs through a separate mechanism.

### Community Description

The City of New Orleans was selected to receive a brownfields assessment grant. New Orleans, a city of approximately 490,000 residents in southeastern Louisiana, is a federal Renewal Community. According to 2002 census data, New Orleans has the largest proportion of African-Americans in any large city in the United States (more than 67 percent). The unemployment rate in the city is 14.4 percent, and 20.5 percent of households had incomes of less than \$10,000 in 2003. The central city of New Orleans has a population of 19,072, of whom approximately 87.1 percent are African-American. In that area, 25 percent live below the poverty level. There are at least 100 closed service stations throughout this area and the rest



### Assessment Grant

New  
2004

\$200,000 for hazardous substances  
\$200,000 for petroleum

EPA has selected the City of New Orleans to receive a brownfields assessment grant. Hazardous substances grant funds will be used to conduct assessments of the nature and extent of contamination at two sites proposed for expansion of a local high school in the central city. Grant funds will also be used for a corrective action plan, and community outreach. Petroleum grant funds will be used to identify and inventory closed service station sites throughout the city, and to perform as many Phase I assessments at these sites as funding will permit. Grant funds will also be used for community outreach and to identify insurance policies owned for the petroleum properties and develop strategies to file claims for these sites.

### Contacts

For further information, including specific grant contacts, additional grant information, brownfields news and events, and publications and links, visit the EPA Brownfields web site at: [www.epa.gov/brownfields](http://www.epa.gov/brownfields)

EPA Region 6 Brownfields Team  
214-665-2180  
<http://www.epa.gov/region6/brownfields>

Grant Recipient: New Orleans, LA  
504-565-8115

The cooperative agreement for this grant has not yet been negotiated; therefore, the activities described in this fact sheet are subject to change.

of the city. Brownfields redevelopment is expected to develop new industry, create jobs and training opportunities, renovate old housing stock, and address environmental justice issues.